

IN THE CLAIMS:

On page 28, in line 1 please cancel "Patent claims" and substitute:

--I CLAIM AS MY INVENTION-- therefor.

Cancel claims 1-15.

5 1-15. (Cancelled)

Add the following new claims:

16.(New) A method for determining information regarding position and orientation of magnetic resonance tomographic slice image exposures of a patient, reference to the patient, comprising the steps of:

10 generating a plurality of initial MR overview exposures of the body of a patient;

electronically individualizing electronic data representing a predetermined, parameterized anatomical body model using said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures; and

15 automatically electronically determining patient-referenced information indicating a position and orientation of subsequent slice image exposures of the patient, obtained after said initial MR overview images, dependent on a relative position of said subsequent slice image exposures with respect to the individualized body model.

20 17.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising producing said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures in a standardized arrangement.

18.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising generating said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures as cross-section exposures of the patient.

19.(New) A method as claimed in claim 18 comprising generating said cross-section exposures, comprising said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures, as a plurality of cross-section exposures with respective intervals therebetween of no greater than approximately 50 cm.

5 20.(New) A method as claimed in claim 18 comprising generating said cross-section exposures, comprising said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures, as a plurality of cross-section exposures with respective intervals therebetween of no greater than approximately 15 cm.

10 21.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising automatically electronically determining a quality of individualization of said body model by individualizing said anatomical body model in successive iterations and, after each iteration, comparing the individualized body model to a structure therein that is also detectable in said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures.

15 22.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising individualizing said body model by adjusting model parameters comprising at least one translation parameter, at least one rotation parameter and at least one scaling parameter of an entirety of the body model, in addition to parameters describing a spatial position and shape of predetermined body 20 parts of said body model.

23.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising determining a linguistic destination of the position of the patient using parameter values of said individualized body model.

24.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising automatically positioning said patient dependent on a patient description entered by an operator, and automatically electronically monitoring a description of said patient position using parameter values of said individualized body model.

25. 25.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising providing a visualizeable output of said position and orientation of said subsequent slice image exposures dependent on said individualized body model.

26.(New) A method as claimed in claim 25 comprising providing said visualized output in a form selected from the group consisting of a linguistic form and a graphical form.

27.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising using said 5 individualized body model to automatically electronically calculate a body weight of the patient.

28.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising automatically electronically positioning the patient relative to a magnetic resonance scanner, for obtaining said subsequent magnetic resonance 10 exposures, using said individualized body model.

29.(New) A method as claimed in claim 16 comprising electronically storing said individualized body model, and generating said subsequent magnetic resonance images of the patient at a time substantially separated from a time at which said initial magnetic resonance images of the patient 15 were generated, with electronic access to the stored individualized body model.

30.(New) A computer readable medium encoded with information in computer readable form that programs a computer to operate a magnetic resonance imaging apparatus to:

20 generating a plurality of initial MR overview exposures of the body of a patient;

electronically individualizing electronic data representing a predetermined, parameterized anatomical body model using said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures; and

25 automatically electronically determining patient-referenced information indicating a position and orientation of subsequent slice image exposures of the patient, obtained after said initial MR overview images, dependent on a relative position of said subsequent slice image exposures with respect to the individualized body 30 model.

31.(New) A control device for operating a magnetic resonance tomography apparatus having a scanner adapted to receive a patient therein, said control device being programmed to:

5 generating a plurality of initial MR overview exposures of the body of a patient;

electronically individualizing electronic data representing a predetermined, parameterized anatomical body model using said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures; and automatically electronically determining patient-referenced information 10 indicating a position and orientation of subsequent slice image exposures of the patient, obtained after said initial MR overview images, dependent on a relative position of said subsequent slice image exposures with respect to the individualized body model.

15 32.(New) A magnetic resonance apparatus comprising:

generating a plurality of initial MR overview exposures of the body of a patient; electronically individualizing electronic data representing a predetermined, parameterized anatomical body model using 20 said initial magnetic resonance overview exposures; and automatically electronically determining patient-referenced information indicating a position and orientation of subsequent slice image exposures of the patient, obtained after said initial MR overview images, dependent on a relative position of said subsequent slice image exposures with respect to the individualized body model.

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